

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A device for delivering a supply of gases to a user comprising:

a mask, in use in fluid communication with said supply of gases and supplying said gases to said user; and

at least one outlet member integrated with or attached to said mask,

wherein a boundary between said outlet member and said mask forms at least one narrow outlet vent that in use passes a substantial portion of expired gases of said user, in an upward direction toward the top of the user's head; and

wherein said outlet vent comprises a slot formed in said mask and a cover extending over said slot and attached to said mask, such that a separation between said mask and said cover increases at a location between the slot and an edge of said cover where the gases exit the outlet vent in order to diffuse said exhaled gases.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) A device for delivering a supply of gases to a user according to claim 1 wherein said outlet member is removable.

4. (Previously Presented) A device for delivering a supply of gases to a user according to claim 1 wherein said at least one outlet vent is a substantially long tapered slot.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) A device for delivering a supply of gases to a user according to claim 1 wherein said at least one outlet vent extends between the top and bottom of said mask.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) A device for delivering a supply of gases to a user according to claim 1 wherein said mask is a nasal mask.

9. (Previously Presented) A device for delivering a supply of gases to a user according to claim 1 wherein said mask is a full face mask.

10. **(Currently Amended)** A CPAP system for delivering gases to a user comprising:  
a pressurised source of gases;  
a gas conduit transport means in fluid communication with said pressurised source of gases and adapted to convey said gases; and  
a mask in fluid communication with said gas conduit and configured to deliver transport means in use delivering said gases to said user; and  
at least one removable outlet member integrated with or attached to said mask, wherein a boundary between said outlet member and said mask forms at least one narrow outlet vent that in use passes a substantial portion of expired gases of said user in an upward direction toward the top of the user's head, said outlet vent comprises a slot formed in said mask and a cover extending over said slot and attached to said mask, such that a separation between said mask and said cover increases at a location between the slot and an edge of said cover where the gases exit the outlet vent in order to diffuse said exhaled gases.

11. (Previously Presented) A CPAP system for delivering gases to a user according to claim 10 wherein said outlet member is removable.

12. **(Currently Amended)** A removable outlet member for a gases delivery mask, said mask including a slot and having said outlet member provided thereon, a boundary between said outlet member and the mask forming at least one narrow outlet vent that in use passes a substantial portion of expired gases from a user, said outlet member comprising:

a cover extending over the slot in the mask and attached to the mask, such that a separation between the mask and said cover increases at a location between the slot and an edge of said cover where the gases exit the outlet vent in order to diffuse said exhaled gases in an upward direction toward the top of the user's head.

13 -17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) A device for delivering a supply of gases to a user according to claim 1, wherein the separation between the mask and the cover increases to the edge of the cover.

19. (Previously Presented) A device for delivering a supply of gases to a user according to claim 1, wherein the cover comprises a proximal end and a distal end, the proximal end located closer to the slot than the distal end, wherein the separation between the mask and the cover increases from the proximal end to the distal end.

20. (Previously Presented) A device for delivering a supply of gases to a user according to claim 1, wherein an angle defined by the separation between the mask and the cover is between about 1° and about 20°.

21. (Previously Presented) A device for delivering a supply of gases to a user according to claim 1, wherein a cross-sectional area between the mask and the cover increases at a location between the slot and the edge of the cover along a direction towards the edge of the cover.

22. (Previously Presented) A CPAP system for delivering gases to a user according to claim 10, wherein the separation between the mask and the cover increases towards the edge of the cover.

23. (Previously Presented) A CPAP system for delivering gases to a user according to claim 10, wherein an angle defined by the separation between the mask and the cover is between about 1° and about 20°.

24. (Previously Presented) A removable outlet member for a gases delivery mask according to claim 12, wherein the separation between the mask and the cover increases towards the edge of the cover.

25. (Previously Presented) A removable outlet member for a gases delivery mask according to claim 12, wherein an angle defined by the separation between the mask and the cover is between about 1° and about 20°.

26. (**New**) A device for delivering a supply of gases to a user according to claim 1, wherein said outlet member has a bottom edge shorter than its top edge.

27. (**New**) A CPAP system for delivering gases to a user according to claim 10, wherein said cover has a width that increases from its bottom edge to its top edge.

28. (**New**) A removable outlet member for a gases delivery mask according to claim 12, wherein said cover comprises a first edge near the slot and a second edge near a location

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where gases exit the outlet went, wheren the width of said cover is greater at the second edge than at the first edge.